(SRI S. R. KANTHI)

will be encouraged to seek employment outside the State as well as in the Armed forces. The Diploma is now recognised as a qualification for Commission in the Armed Forces.

Closing of the Kolar Gold Fields and Hutti Gold Mines in the State.

Q.—300. Sri GANJI VEERAPPA (Harihar).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) whether they are aware that the Central Government has taken a decision to close the Kolar Gold Fields (K. G. F.) as well as the Hutti Gold Mines in the State ;

(*b*) whether they are aware that a large number of employees in these Gold Mines will be thrown out of employment ?

A.—Sri K. MALLAPPA (Minister for Industries and Commerce).—

(*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Scarcity conditions prevailing in Chitradurga District during the current year.

Q.— 304. Sri GANJI VEERAPPA (Harihar).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) whether they are aware that due to failure of rains in Chitradurga District acute scarcity conditions are prevailing during the current year ;

(*b*) whether any relief measures have been undertaken by Government to help the suffering people ; and if so, what are the measures taken so far in this regard ;

(*c*) whether they have decided to suspend or remit the collection of land revenue in Chitradurga District during the current year as one of the measures ?

A.—Sri M. V. KRISHNAPPA (Minister for Revenue).—

(*a*) The seasonal conditions are not bad in all the Taluks. The Taluks of Chitradurga, Challekere, Hiriyur and some parts of Davanagere, Holalkere and Hosadurga are affected due to failure of rains during the current year.

(*b*) As a measure of immediate relief, construction of Gokattes, etc., in these taluks has been ordered to be taken up for execution. Takavi and Land Improvement Loans are also given to the needy people wherever necessary.

(*c*) Such a contingency has not arisen so far.